



The Committee on Urban Design and Environment (CUDE) met at 11:30 AM on Thursday, August 20, 2009 in Room 320 City Hall, Rochester, MN.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dick Abraham, Nora Dooley, Gail Eadie, Mark Engel, Sandi Goslee, Jim Judisch, Stephan Lewis, Lindsey Meek, Roger Nelson, Dave Petersen, Terry Spaeth, Zach Thaler, Jean Weathers-Lowin

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mark Jasmin, Jesse Wallace

OTHERS PRESENT

Roberta Tolan, Doug Knott, Christine Schultze, Mike Wojcik

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order at 11:35.

Mr. Engel motion/Mr. Lewis second to approve the July minutes. Unanimous approval.

Ms. Goslee presented the proposal for CUDE's 2010 budget. Ms. Dooley commented on the importance of the breakfast; Mr. Wojcik agreed. Ms. Dooley motion/ Mr. Lewis second to approve the budget request as proposed. Unanimous approval.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Heritage Preservation Committee

Mr. Petersen relayed to the group that he is also the chair of Rochester's Heritage Preservation Committee (HPC). The HPC recently received correspondence from the National Trust for Preservation stating that they'd like to bring a workshop to Rochester. The workshop would be like a design charrette, where a team of preservation experts come to work with a community on preservation issues. One of these workshops was conducted in Owatonna in 2007. The catch is that the community has to provide \$35,000 in in-kind services. He commented that this may be something CUDE would like to get involved with. More news later...

Quarry Hill Pond – Roberta Tolan

Ms. Tolan began her presentation with a background on Quarry Hill Park and its services. She stated that more responsibility has fallen on the shoulders of the Friends of Quarry Hill as funding from the City of Rochester and the Rochester School District has decreased.

The pond is heavily used for education and recreation; the DNR stocks the pond. The pond is perched rather than stream fed. Thus, with leaks in the pond's liner, the water level is declining. As the water level declines, there is an increase in algae blooms.

So, there is a vital need to repair the pond. Proposed measures include bank repair and lining, adding an aeration system, refilling the pond from Silver Creek, and reseeding the banks. The cost to repair the pond is in the \$50,000-\$60,000 range and, in order to receive some matching grants, needs to be done before

this winter. Funding has been raised through private donors. The hope is that the City money left over from the reroofing of the Quarry Hill learning center could also be applied to this project.

Ms. Tolan asked if CUDE would provide a letter of support for the City funding due to its value to the urban environment. Ms. Dooley agreed to draft the letter. Ms. Eadie motion/ Mr. Petersen second to support this effort. The vote was unanimous.

Urban Village Design Guidelines – Gail Eadie

Ms. Eadie began her presentation with a montage of slides from across the country that are representative of urban village design principles. She then relayed to the group a series of design guidelines that the Rochester Downtown Alliance subcommittee (Gail Eadie, Doug Knott, Christine Schultze, Jeff Ellerbusch) drafted; these guidelines have been adopted by the RDA and approved by the Rochester City Council. These guidelines will form the foundation of a zoning overlay ordinance for the urban village part of the downtown. Mr. Wojcik talked about he envisions CUDE as a review body for development in this area. A joint venture is underway to create a master plan, with hopes of a draft report by next summer.

Adjourn – 1:10. Next meeting will be at 11:30 on September 17th in Room 320 City Hall.